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From: Alan Suderman
Posted At: Thursday, November 1, 2012 6:27 AM
Conversation: Morning Clicks
Posted To: Sleeping

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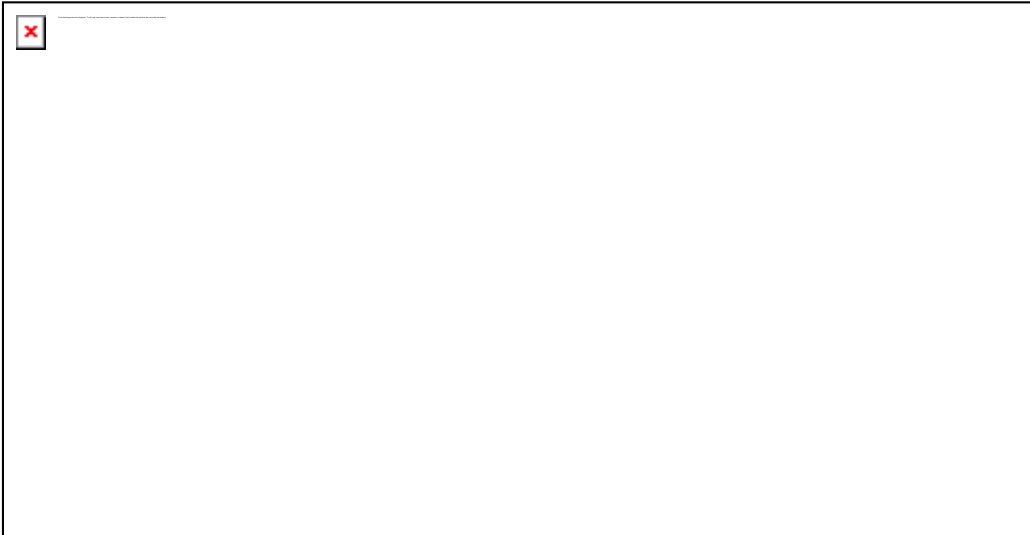
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Sent: Sunday, June 30, 2013 11:33 AM
To: Wardtwodc@yahooogroups.com
Subject: [tenleytown] On Metro



The following was [originally published](#) at the [R Street Institute](#). Follow R Street on Twitter at [@RSI](#) and [find it on Facebook](#).

It's very difficult to find any agreement in Washington DC. From budgets to healthcare to social issues to even Redskins or the Ravens, disagreement is the norm. But there is one issue that is completely nonpartisan, on which all agree: the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), the agency that runs the buses and the subway, stinks.

Earlier this month, the *Washington Post*, [in an editorial called WMATA](#) a “slow-rolling embarrassment.” In one of its last daily editions, the *Washington Examiner*, [blasted WMATA](#) for falling behind on its repair schedule. There is no shortage of outrage and hate directed at the public transit system, which is slowly grinding to a halt—unlike its trains, which often stop abruptly for little to no reason.

The problems that WMATA has—constantly broken elevators and escalators, power outages, unresponsive and [even rude employees](#)—are all related to WMATA's status as a government backed entity. Unlike a private sector organization, dependent on the will of the customer, WMATA doesn't have that, so it has no incentive to actually improve and serve customers better.

Here are the top 5 policies that are keeping WMATA dysfunctional.

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WMATA boasts that it is a clean metro service, and that they don't have the rats that other metro services (which will remain nameless) carry. But while I wouldn't want rats riding next to me on my way to work, I would actually like to *get* to work, and everywhere else.

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Other times they spin the Hell out of something. For example: over the last 2 years riders have complained about the “fish smell” stinking up stations. Once WMATA finally did address the complaints - after someone from the media asked about it - they said it was dried up sewers under Gallery Place - which is total BS. Everyone knows its the organic brake pads on the trains. Why they felt they needed to lie? I have no idea.

It should be noted that Mr. Barnes has applied to join the Riders Advisory Council three times in as many years. He has never received as much as a phone call from WMATA.

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One of the key reasons for WMATA's failures is that it has no incentives to actually respond to customers. If it starts losing money, it can simply increase fares—it's not like it has any competition. Or, if that doesn't work, it can get money from the member governments (Virginia, Maryland, and DC—so the feds are included.)

For the 2014 proposed operating budget, WMATA will receive \$702.1 million dollars from "state and local funds." What that means is taxpayer dollars; not only are you paying when you hop on, you're also paying whenever you receive a paycheck, and *that* comes from everybody, even those who don't even use WMATA! That \$702.1 million makes up a hefty 46% chunk of the operating budget. Meanwhile, rider fares makes up 51%, barely a majority.

Budgetary restraint is simply not a concern to WMATA, as long as they have free money from local and state governments (and not to mention roughly \$300 million from the federal government for their capital budget.) This means an essential feedback mechanism—profit—is short-circuited. Businesses use profits to gauge if they are serving their customers; if profit drops, they know they're not doing as good and need to improve. But WMATA never receives those signals, so of course it doesn't improve.

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Is this a major problem? Does this really have an impact on WMATA's performance? I think it's questionable; I don't think anyone has really researched this. However, if a chunk of their riders aren't paying the \$11 a day that everyone else is paying, it seems rather clear that WMATA will receive fewer complaints.

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In addition, the many many problems of the escalators failing—in some cases, even injuring riders—can also be attributed to the union's "Pick" system. Under this arrangement, workers get to choose where they report to work, based on seniority. What happens? More experienced workers go to newer escalators and elevators that don't need nearly as much work, while less experienced workers get stuck with the more broken, time-consuming ones.

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Other incidents include WMATA employees [frequently parking in handicapped spots](#) (and when asked about them, resort to vulgarity towards riders) or otherwise [taking up spots reserved for customers](#) (and when customers park there, they get ticketed), bus drivers [nearly killing bicyclists](#) (and then yelling at them), or even [just sleeping on the job](#).

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Smith, Brackett W. (Council)

From: brentwooddc@yahoogroups.com
Sent: Monday, July 1, 2013 7:25 AM
To: brentwooddc@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [brentwooddc] Digest Number 875

YAHOO! GROUPS

Brentwood DC Community Group

1 New Message
Digest #875

[On Metro](#) by "Bruce Majors" 1

Message 1

On Metro

Sun Jun 30, 2013 8:33 am (PDT) . Posted by:

["Bruce Majors"](#)

[image: Subway]

*The following was originally

published<<http://rstreet.org/2013/06/27/top-five-policies-that-keep-dcs-metro-dysfunctional/>>

at

the R Street

Institute<[http://www.unitedliberty.org/sites/all/modules/terraeclipse/te_admin/includes/tiny_mce/\\$host/rstreet.org](http://www.unitedliberty.org/sites/all/modules/terraeclipse/te_admin/includes/tiny_mce/$host/rstreet.org)>.

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[repairs/article/2531162>](#)

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Smith, Brackett W. (Council)

From: Gil, Helder (MPD) <helder.gil@dc.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 20, 2014 10:29 AM
To: Phelps, Anne (Council); LeFevre, Cynthia (Council)
Subject: MPD Responses to Committee Followup Questions (2/2)
Attachments: FINAL Attachments to MPD Responses to Conduct Hearing Follow Up Questions_03 19 14.pdf

Categories: Red Category

Anne & Cynthia:

Attached are MPD's responses to CM Wells' correspondence from February 5 with additional questions arising from the January 24 Committee hearing on police officer conduct.

As the attached documents are quite sizeable, I will send them in two emails; this is the second of two emails. Please let me know that you have received them and that you can open the PDFs.

Regards,
Helder

Helder Gil, Esq.
Legislative Affairs Officer
Strategic Change Division
Metropolitan Police Department
Office Phone: 202-727-4264
Cell Phone: 202-270-3120
Twitter: @DCPoliceDept

Have questions about your new Supercan, trash can or larger recycling bin? Check out this helpful [FAQ](#) from the Department of Public Works.

Smith, Brackett W. (Council)

From: Metro Weekly <rshulman=metroweekly.com@mail55.atl71.mcdlv.net> on behalf of Metro Weekly <rshulman@metroweekly.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2015 4:03 PM
To: Fazzini, Thomas (Council)
Subject: Sony: Sleeping on the job - The latest ISIS horror - Ranking Duran Duran - Bruce Jenner comes out as transgender

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Bruce Jenner comes out as transgender

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METROWEEKLY



Sony Z4

COMPLACENCY IS RUINING SONY'S SMARTPHONES

by Rhuaridh Marr

Complacency in business is downright suicidal. Refreshing inventory, staying on top of market trends, redesigning key products, cultivating loyal users and commercial appeal: complacency has no place in business. That, perhaps, is why it's so bizarre to see Sony, a company once known for pushing the boundaries of consumer technology, so willing to let its flagship smartphone line slowly and painfully dig its own grave. [\[Read More\]](#)

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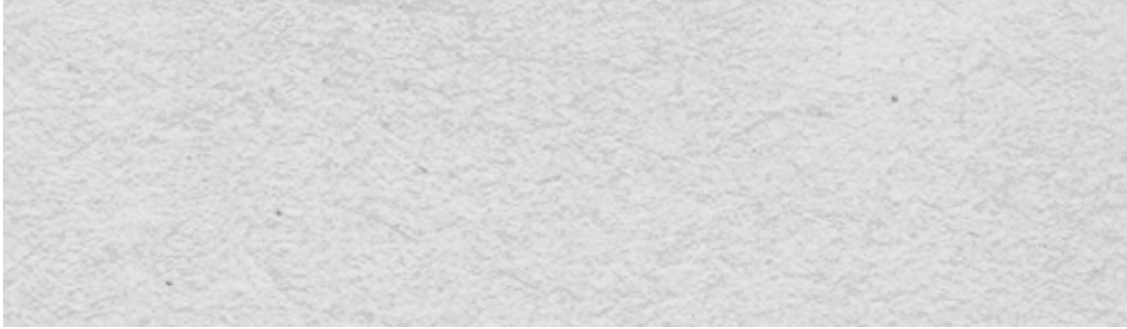


Vile Actions

***ISIS EMBRACED A GAY COUPLE BEFORE
STONING THEM TO DEATH***

by Rhuaridh Marr

ISIS recently released images that show a gay couple being embraced in “forgiveness,” before being brutally murdered. Put out on social media and shared by ISIS sympathizers, according to the Daily Mail, the images show two blindfolded men being led out in front of a large crowd of men and boys. ISIS fighters embrace the two men, apparently forgiving them for their sins, before proceeding to stone the pair to death. [\[Read More\]](#)



music

by Chris Gerard



RANKING DURAN DURAN

Fourteen of Duran Duran's albums, from worst to first. [\[Read More\]](#)

last word

by Randy Shulman



"I'M A WOMAN"

Bruce Jenner comes out as transgender to ABC's Diana Sawyer. [\[Read More\]](#)



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Smith, Brackett W. (Council)

From: WTOP Daily Headlines <newsletter@wtop.com>
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2016 4:41 PM
To: Muslim, Amin (Council)
Subject: Md. board approves building new \$765M Harry Nice bridge - WTOP Afternoon Headlines - Monday, November 21, 2016



AFTERNOON HEADLINES - November 21, 2016

WHATEVER YOU NEED TO KNOW.
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Md. board approves building new \$765M Harry Nice bridge

A Maryland state board voted to build a new \$765 million Harry Nice Memorial Bridge. Construction would begin in fiscal year 2020.

Monday traffic: How did a Canal Rd. crash lead to delays in Virginia?

The hardest thing to explain to WTOP listeners Monday morning was how a crash closing outbound Canal Road could cause such multidirectional delays. But that's how it works.



Montgomery Co. police chief defends handling of rape cases

Montgomery County police classified about 24 percent of its sexual assault cases as "unfounded" -- compared to about 7 percent of police departments nationwide. Police Chief Tom Manger defended his department's handling of sexual assault cases and said the state's attorney's office is hiring additional staff to review cases.



Coast Guard ends search for missing Md. fisherman

The Coast Guard has suspended its search for a missing Maryland fisherman, lost near White Point Beach in St. Mary's County over the weekend.



Ice sculptures return to Gaylord

Ready for a chilly adventure in a frozen world? The annual holiday ice sculptures and slides are back at Gaylord National Resort at National Harbor. (Photos)



15 Thanksgiving potato recipes

Here are different ways to make mashed potatoes and sweet potatoes. | [Area restaurants open on Thanksgiving](#)



Line between transition, company blurred by Trump children

Three of Donald Trump's children are poised to wield incredible influence over their father, even if they don't follow him to Washington. Already, they've been heavily involved in shaping the administration, sitting in on meetings and taking late night calls from their father.



Dave's Take: Redskins — a lot to like now, but a lot to do

The Redskins' rout over the Packers stirred a new catchphrase from quarterback Kirk Cousins, but the team still has some work to do if it wants to secure a playoff berth again this year.



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Five top things your pharmacist wants you to know

You may not spend much time talking with your pharmacist regularly, but perhaps you should. Pharmacists can be a valuable resource for ensuring the safety of you and your family. To help everyone use medications wisely, here are five top things they say you need to know.

Sponsored by MedStar Washington Hospital Center



Local leaders call for tolerance as hate crimes rise

Alarmed by the rise in hate crimes, local leaders led a rally in downtown Silver Spring, Maryland, championing diversity and tolerance.



Metro, union haggle over disciplinary policy

Metro and its largest union were set to begin negotiations over disciplinary policies on Monday as the two sides haggle over how to reprimand workers for violations that range from wearing the wrong uniform to sleeping on the job.



Campaign yard signs 'worthless' this year

In this year's presidential race at least, those campaign signs in neighborhood yards across the commonwealth did not do much, if anything.



Local historic sites inspire hit TV show and tours

If you are a fan of "Mercy Street," it may be time to check out the Alexandria locations that tell the real stories that inspired the drama.



This offbeat vehicle ranks on top for resale value

The National Automobile Dealers Association crunched the numbers to determine depreciation rates for three-year-old cars, trucks and SUVs.



Trump cabinet at-a-glance

When President-elect Donald Trump takes office, his administration will bring new leadership to every federal agency.



Storm dumps 18 inches of snow on parts of Northeast

A storm system is bringing wintry weather to the Northeast, dumping up to 18 inches of snow in parts of upstate New York. (Photos)



Friend or foe? Sometimes hard to tell in war for Mosul

Iraqi forces assaulting the city are on the lookout for IS fighters or members trying to slip out of the city with other residents, whether to escape or to sneak behind the lines to carry out attacks.



Workweek weather: Chilly, some showers may visit on Thanksgiving

A shortened workweek starts off with more strong winds from over the weekend. Meteorologist Matt Ritter has your Thanksgiving Day forecast.



Thanksgiving Day races worth checking out

Before you dig into Thanksgiving meals, there are several “turkey trot” races in the D.C. area worth participating in — as ways to both burn calories and give back. (Photos)



‘Once’ brings busker romance to National Theatre this weekend

Mark your calendar and get your tickets now if you don’t want to miss the Oscar- and Tony-winning musical “Once,” which swings through National Theatre this week.

FEDERAL NEWS RADIO



Lawmakers decry possible removal of NSA director

Several key GOP members of Congress began to weigh in this weekend with strong disapproval over suggestions that Adm. Michael Rogers, the director of the National Security Agency and commander of U.S. Cyber Command, may be fired during the final weeks of the Obama administration.



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